

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
receiving an unbounded data frame from a parallel advanced technology attachment (ATA) to serial ATA bridge;
receiving storing said unbounded data frame in a receive buffer, said receive buffer comprising a plurality of buffers; ~~and~~
controlling data flow into said receive buffer by filling successive ones of said plurality of buffers;
establishing a threshold level in one of said buffers; and
sending a hold command to said parallel ATA to serial ATA bridge ~~a transmitting node currently sending data~~ to hold transmission of additional data when a level of said data in said receive buffer reaches ~~a high~~ said threshold level.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2-1~~, wherein each of said plurality of buffers has a capacity of about 1 kilobyte.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2-1~~, wherein said ~~high~~ threshold level is reached when a predetermined portion of the available capacity of all said plurality of buffers is utilized.
5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
circuitry capable of receiving an unbounded data frame from a parallel advanced technology attachment (ATA) to serial ATA bridge, storing said unbounded data frame in a receive buffer, said receive buffer comprising a plurality of buffers; controlling data flow into said receive buffer by filling successive ones of said plurality of buffers; establishing a threshold level in one of said buffers; and sending a hold command to said parallel ATA to serial ATA

bridge to hold transmission of additional data when a level of said data in said receive buffer reaches said threshold level.

~~receiving data in a receive buffer, said receive buffer comprising a plurality of buffers, and sending a hold command to a transmitting node currently sending data to hold transmission of additional data when a level of said data in said receive buffer reaches a high threshold level.~~

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~6-5~~, wherein each of said plurality of buffers has a capacity of about 1 kilobyte.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~6-5~~, wherein said ~~high~~ threshold level is reached when a predetermined portion of the available capacity of all said plurality of buffers is utilized.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a parallel advanced technology attachment (ATA) to serial ATA bridge; and
a circuit card comprising an integrated circuit, said circuit card capable of being coupled to a bus, said integrated circuit comprising a receive buffer comprising a plurality of buffers, and said integrated circuit further comprising buffer control circuitry ~~capable of directing data flow into said plurality of buffers, said buffer control circuitry further capable of receiving an unbounded data frame from said parallel advanced technology attachment (ATA) to serial ATA bridge, storing said unbounded data frame in said receive buffer, controlling data~~

flow into said receive buffer by filling successive ones of said plurality of buffers, establishing a threshold level in one of said buffers, and sending a signal to hold transmission of additional data when a level of said data in said receive buffer reaches said threshold level.
~~providing a signal in response to data in all of said plurality of buffers reaching a high threshold level.~~

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein said integrated circuit further comprises:
link layer circuitry responsive to said signal to provide a hold command to a transmitting node currently sending data to hold transmission of additional data.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of buffers has a capacity of about 1 kilobyte.

17. (Currently Amended) An article, comprising:
a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that when executed by a machine result in the following:

creating a plurality of predetermined storage locations in a receive buffer;
directing storage of an unbounded data frame from a parallel advanced technology attachment (ATA) to serial ATA bridge in said plurality of predetermined storage location by controlling data flow into said receive buffer by filling successive ones of said plurality of predetermined storage locations; and

sending a hold command to said parallel ATA to serial ATA bridge ~~a transmitting node currently sending data~~ to hold transmission of additional data when a level of said in said predetermined storage locations reaches a ~~high~~ threshold level.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein each of said plurality of predetermined storage locations comprises a buffer.

20. (Original) The article of claim 19, wherein each said buffer has a capacity of about 1 kilobyte.